HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.
4TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA

COMMITTEES:

JUDICIARY

ARMED SERVICES

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, IC 20515—1004

September 4th, 2009

COURTS AND COMPETITION POLICY

CONSTITUTION, CIVIL RIGHTS, AND
CIVIL LIBERTIES

COMMERCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SUBCOMMITTEES:

CHAIRMAN.

READINESS
MILITARY PERSONNEL

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman Chairman Committee on Energy and Commerce U.S. House of Representatives 2204 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-0530

The Honorable Joe Barton Ranking Minority Member Committee on Energy and Commerce U.S. House of Representatives 2109 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-4306

Dear Chairman Waxman and Representative Barton:

We write to urge swift action on a three-year extension of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act that reflects the unified recommendations of over 275 HIV/AIDS organizations in 45 states across the country. This lifesaving legislation funds an array of innovative and effective services that form the healthcare safety net for uninsured and underinsured Americans living with HIV/AIDS. With the Act set to expire on September 30, 2009, it is imperative that Congress act to extend this landmark legislation well before that date to ensure that vital services are not withheld from people who so desperately need them.

Americans living with HIV/AIDS and those who care for them will be best served by a Ryan White Program that is extended for three years and is amended to include the recommendations that reflect an unprecedented consensus among those on the frontlines of the epidemic. The recommendations include (1) authorizing "such sums as necessary" for the program to ensure adequate funding, (2) updating the *Requirement of Names-Based Reporting* section to include fiscal years 2010 through 2012, (3) updating *Sec. 2609 (c) Certain Eligiblity Rules* under Title I of the current legislation to ensure that transitional grant areas retain their status and continuity of care is preserved, and other technical fixes detailed in the enclosed "HIV/AIDS Community Consensus on the Future of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act". Timely extension of the legislation is essential to ensure that uninsured and underinsured people living

with HIV/AIDS do not experience a gap in the delivery of life-saving medical and supportive services as our nation transitions into a new health care environment.

On behalf of our constituents living with HIV/AIDS who receive Ryan White services, we ask that you prioritize extending the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act before the September 30, 2009 deadline. Anything less will result in unfortunate consequences for lowincome Americans living with HIV/AIDS.

Enclosure: HIV/AIDS Community Consensus on the Future of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act

Sincerely,

Member of Cong

Charles Rangel

Member of Congr

Dennis Moore Member of Congress

Betty McCollum Member of Congress

Carolyn Maloney Member of Congress

Debbie Wasserman Schulz

Member of Congress

Alcee Hastings

Member of Congress

Donald Payne

Member of Congress

Mary Jo Kilroy

Member of Congress

Gregory Meeks

Member of Congress

Steve Israel Member of Congress

John Lewis

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Paul Hodes

Member of Congress

Corrine Brown

Member of Congress

Frank LoBiondo

Member of Congress

Steven Rothman Member of Congress

Bobby Scott

Member of Congress

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